

BACKGROUND

Anatomy of the affair

By RAINE MARCUS

The first report of what came to be known as the Bar-On Affair was broadcast on Channel 1's Mabat news program three months ago by police reporter Ayala Hasson. Roni Bar-On, a relatively unknown criminal lawyer from Jerusalem, she said, had been appointed attorney-general as a result of irregular wheeling and dealing by MK Aryeh Deri, Justice

Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu himself. Deri, according to Mabat, wanted Bar-On to be appointed attorney-general so he could reach a plea bargain in his ongoing criminal trial. If Bar-On were not appointed, said Hasson, Deri threatened to lead his Shas Party into opposing the Hebron redeployment agreement, perhaps causing the government to collapse. Bar-On was appointed, but after a pub-

lic outcry resigned only 48 hours later. Netanyahu vehemently denied all allegations, but ordered a police investigation. Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman was also implicated in the affair, as were many others, including businessman and Deri confidant David Appel, allegedly the intermediary between Deri and the Prime Minister's Office. Internal Security Minister Avigdor

Kahalani said at the time that if there was truth in the allegations, the government should resign. A special police team was set up, headed by national investigations chief Cmdr. Sando Mazar and Dep. Cmdr. Ya'acov Grossman, who conducted a massive probe in which 50 people were summoned to give evidence or questioned under caution. Among the first to give evidence was Hasson herself, followed by Appel, Deri,

Bar-On, and lawyer Dan Avi-Yitzhak. Avi-Yitzhak had been Deri's trial lawyer, but allegedly wished to become attorney-general (and has vehemently denied any involvement in the affair). Deri strongly opposed such a candidacy, arguing Avi-Yitzhak could not abandon him in the middle of his complicated trial. A deep rift opened between the two, culminating in Avi-Yitzhak's resignation from the case. Avi-Yitzhak then issued a

letter citing alleged irregularities by Deri in his intervention in appointing Bar-On attorney-general. Netanyahu was himself questioned under caution for four hours by police, but was reportedly uncooperative. Lieberman was questioned under caution three times. But the MK who spent the most hours with police was Hanegbi, who at one stage said he was being used as scapegoat by the government.

Our dear father, grandfather, and father-in-law Prof. ELI DAVIS

former director of Hadassah, has passed away. The funeral will leave today, Wednesday, April 16, 1997, at 3:30 p.m. from the Hadassah-University Medical School, Ein Kerem, Jerusalem for Har Hamenuhot, Givat Shaul. Daughter: Naomi and Dr. David A. Frenkel and children Son: Haim and Linda Divon and children Shiva at Rehov Molcho 9, Jerusalem.



Hadassah Women's Zionist Organization of America and the Hadassah family in Israel

mourns the death of

Prof. ELI DAVIS

former director of the Hadassah Medical Organization, physician, researcher, teacher, and outstanding manager, and share in the grief of the family.



Hadassah Medical Organization

mourns the death of

Prof. ELI DAVIS

former director of the Hadassah Medical Organization, a pioneer of Israeli medicine who led Hadassah during the War of Independence and in the early years of the state, and shares in the grief of the family. The funeral will leave today, Wednesday, April 16, 1997 (9 Nisan 5757) from the plaza of the Hadassah-University Medical School, Ein Kerem, at 3:30 p.m. for Har Hamenuhot.



Aryeh Deri, leader of the Shas Party, who is being tried in Jerusalem District Court on corruption charges, has been cited as a key figure in the Bar-On Affair. According to police evidence, he is suspected of blackmailing and threatening Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu regarding Bar-On's appointment. Deri was allegedly told that Bar-On is "one of us" and would help him arrange a plea bargain or pardon. If Bar-On was not appointed, he allegedly told Netanyahu, Shas would leave the government. Deri strongly opposed the appointment of his own lawyer Dan Avi-Yitzhak as attorney-general, arguing that he could not abandon him in the middle of his trial. Avi-Yitzhak later resigned as Deri's attorney. Police have recommended Deri's indictment on charges of blackmail and threats.

(Text: Raine Marcus; Photo: Israel Sun)



Tzahi Hanegbi was appointed after justice minister after Ya'acov Ne'eman was forced to resign, then indicted on charges of tampering with evidence and breach of trust. Hanegbi did his internship in Bar-On's law office after completing law school. He was investigated at great length. One of the reasons, he said at the time, was that he insisted on transcribing the whole investigation by hand and thoroughly going over all questions and answers. Hanegbi is suspected of presenting government ministers with false information about Bar-On and of embellishing Bar-On's resume to Supreme Court President Aharon Barak to persuade him that he was right for the job. He has said he does not intend to suspend himself. The police are recommending he be indicted for breach of trust.

(Text: Raine Marcus; Photo: Israel Sun)

Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, has consistently slammed Channel 1. He was allegedly the 'pipeline' between Deri and Netanyahu, acting as intermediary for the alleged deal to appoint Bar-On. It is no secret that Lieberman is also livid with Avi-Yitzhak for abandoning Deri. Lieberman, who has been questioned under caution three times, was reportedly uncooperative and aggressive. The police recommendation to indict him for breach of trust is not totally



conclusive, sources said. (Text: Raine Marcus; Photo: Isaac Hazzan)

The questioned

- Members of the government
1. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu (questioned under caution)
2. Finance Minister Dan Meridor
3. Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi (questioned under caution)
4. Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai
5. Interior Minister Eli Shuss
6. Communications Minister Limor Livnat
7. Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy
8. Foreign Minister David Levy
9. Ze'ev Begin, former science minister
Prime minister's staff and advisers
10. Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office (questioned under caution)
11. Danny Naveh, cabinet secretary
12. Moshe Leon, director of the Prime Minister's Office
13. David Agmon, former director of the Prime Minister's Office
14. Shai Bazak, communications adviser
15. Ruhama Avraham, secretary
16. Yitzhak Molcho, legal adviser
17. David Shimron, legal adviser
Members of Knesset
18. Aryeh Deri (questioned under caution)
19. Shaul Yahalom
20. Ehud Olmert
21. Ophir Pines
Members of the legal system
22. Aharon Barak, president of the Supreme Court
23. Michael Ben-Yair, former attorney-general
24. Dror Hotev-Yishai, chairman of the Israel Bar Association
25. Tsevi Tal, former Supreme Court justice
26. Roni Bar-On, former attorney-general
27. Yossi Cohen, head of the Jerusalem Bar
28. Eitan Haberman, legal adviser to the Likud
29. Dan Avi-Yitzhak, attorney-general candidate
30. Dov Weisglass, attorney-general candidate
31. Gilad Bilui, aide to Aryeh Deri
32. Shlomo Deri, brother of Aryeh Deri
Members of the press
33. Ayala Hasson, Channel 1 reporter
34. Rafik Halaby, director of Channel 1's news department
35. Ofer Nimrodi, Ma'ariv publisher
36. Ofir Haham, Ma'ariv reporter
37. Yoel Nir, Israel Radio reporter
38. Michael Doron, Channel 1 legal reporter
39. Tali Nir, Channel 2 reporter
40. Erez Rotem, former Ma'ariv reporter
Political activists
41. David Appel, businessman
42. Yehuda Avidan, former assistant to Aryeh Deri
43. Yisrael Yehoshua, Likud activist in Jerusalem
Spokesmen and aides
44. Etti Eshed, Justice Ministry spokesman
45. Moshe Gorali, courts spokesman
46. Dani Ben-Kochav, friend of Bar-On
47. Rivka Tchakotai, daughter of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef
48. Ajon Dankner, businessman and friend of the prime minister
49. Miriam Rubinstein, wife of the attorney-general
50. Yoram Kashi, assistant to Hanegbi

Netanyahu expected to keep Science portfolio

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is expected to tell the cabinet on Friday that he has decided to retain the Science portfolio himself, at least for the time being. Friday will mark three months' period since Ze'ev Begin resigned the post and, by law, Netanyahu has three months to name a replacement. Netanyahu's keeping the portfolio himself does not require Knesset approval, but only an announcement to the cabinet. This will enable Netanyahu to leave all his options open, coalition sources said, including the possibility of a national unity government. Michal Yudelman

The unveiling of the tombstone (hakamat matzeva) for THOMAS D. SPITZER of Montreal will take place at Har Hamenuhot cemetery, Har Tamir, on Sunday, April 20, 1997, at 3:00 p.m.

ERNST HERZ has passed away in old age

The funeral took place yesterday, Tuesday, April 15, 1997.

The Family

We extend our sincere condolences to the family on the passing of a friend and colleague ANDY MEISELS The Associated Press

We extend our sincere condolences to the family on the passing of ANDREW MEISELS Management and staff of The Jerusalem Post

In great sorrow we announce the passing of ANDREW MEISELS The funeral will take place today, Wednesday, April 16, at 1 p.m., at the Yarkon cemetery. Daughters: Tami, Ruthie and Judy Sister: Marianne Mother: Margot Shiva at the family's home, 190 Dizengoff, Apt. 10, Tel Aviv.

We extend sincere condolences to Leo Thurm and family on the passing of our beloved cousin SARAH THURM המקום יגדל אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים Yehudit and Matityahu Adler and family

Touro College extends sincere condolences to Leo Thurm and family on the passing of SARAH THURM a woman of valor who will be sadly missed by all. המקום יגדל אתכם בתוך שאר אבלי ציון וירושלים Dr Bernard Lanier, President Matityahu Adler, Director General and the entire Touro family

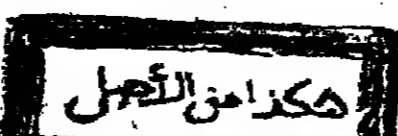
SOCIAL & PERSONAL THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. The speaker will be Mr. Jamil Hamad, correspondent for Time Magazine.

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TO OUR FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE, SAMI SHAMOON CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF BEING ELECTED AS THE HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE BABYLONIAN JEWISH HERITAGE CENTER. THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE JEWISH FAMILY IN THE NAME OF PROF. YITZHAK HALBRECHT - BEIT HATEFUTSOTH



IN CONTEXT / HERB KEINON

Where is Nahum Manbar?

So far the story seems culled from an early scene in a promising adventure movie: A good looking businessman, with an office on the French Riviera and alleged ties with Iran, disappears for three weeks, and even misses a championship game of the basketball team he sponsors.

Where in the world is Nahum Manbar?

"Don't you have anything else to do in Israel except deal with Nahum's well-being?" Manbar's wife Francine asked *Ma'ariv's* Paris-based reporter.

Francine just didn't get it. Israel, judging by the space devoted to Manbar in yesterday's newspapers, is enthralled by stories such as these, similar in genre to tales about about ex-commandos now training dictators in central America, or former IDF officers acting as bodyguards for despots in Africa. Home-grown boys made good.



Nahum Manbar (Moshe Rozitsky/Kol HaIr)

And Manbar is as home grown as they come. Born and raised on Kibbutz Givat Haim Me'uhad, he was an officer in the paratroopers. He left the kibbutz after it would not let him take a leave for university study, and eventually found himself in the shady world of arms sales. He lived for the last several years in France.

In 1991, the Defense Ministry put out directives to stop doing business with Manbar, because of his alleged connections with Iran. The sanctions did not stop at the Mediterranean. In 1994, the US State Department alleged that Manbar violated the trade embargo with Iran by selling it equipment for the manufacture of chemical weapons.

According to *Yediot Aharonot*, President Bill Clinton sent a letter to Congress informing it, in February 1995, that "the administration determines that one man - Nahum Manbar - and two companies worked to distribute forbidden material for the production of chemical weapons."

The presidential letter was followed by US sanctions, which included being placed on a "black list" of companies with

Iranians with whom I worked - a minister, a deputy minister, and an adviser to the president - were not radical, understood matters, and were definitely not among those whose only goal was to destroy Israel," Manbar said.

Manbar said he supplied arms to the Iranians, including tanks, but not "anything that could endanger Israel. There were no missiles, no airplanes, no unconventional arms."

He said that the Israeli authorities who needed to know about these transactions knew about them, and that he received a Defense Ministry okay for what he exported to Iran.

Manbar said he cut off ties with Iran when it began asking for different weaponry. "At a certain stage, they changed the character of their requests and began asking for fundamentally different things. I refused, and reported this in the proper authorities. They wanted medium-range missiles which could carry chemical warheads. They wanted particular material. They wanted me to build a chemical weapons plant in Iran. All these requests, which appeared suspect to me, I passed on to the proper authorities in Israel, and I am talking about suitcases of documents."

Gerald Steinberg, an authority on Middle East arms sales at Bar-Ilan University's BESA Center, said Manbar is the only Israeli he is aware of who has had arms dealings with the Iranians, with the exception of the governments' involvement during the Iran-Contra Affair of the mid 1980s.

"Who knows," Steinberg said, "Maybe Manbar was the inspiration."

Steinberg downplayed the whole affair, saying it is a "minor issue. Whatever he transferred was old junk."

Manbar said in the *Ha'aretz* interview that he terminated ties with the Iranians in 1992.

That was the year his interest shifted to Israeli basketball.

which it is forbidden to do business, and Manbar was reportedly barred from entering the US.

An article in *The New York Times* that month said the sanctions were taken because Manbar had set up fictitious companies in Poland and Britain, through which he sold material for chemical warfare to Iran, some of which came from China. Among the material, according to the paper, were materials used to manufacture mustard and nerve gas.

Manbar, who first appeared on the Israeli sports scene in 1992, when he became financially involved in the Hapoel Tel Aviv basketball team, and later sponsored Hapoel Holon, Elitzur Holon's women's team, and most recently Hapoel Jerusalem, has denied the charges.

In a *Ha'aretz* magazine interview in 1995, Manbar denied trafficking in chemical weapons, but did admit ties with Iran. "They found me, when I was searching for them," he said. "I must say that the



Spring is sprung
Sarit Ataya, a physical education student at the Kibbutz Teachers College, pauses to smell the flowers yesterday during an orienteering competition in the JNF Hulda Forest. (Ariel Jerusalem)

Lederman gets three years for tea attack on Dayan

Yisrael Lederman was sentenced to three years' imprisonment yesterday for deliberately scalding MK Yael Dayan by throwing a cup of hot tea in her face.

Jerusalem Magistrate's Court Judge Yoram Noam also gave Lederman, a Jerusalem resident, a five-month sentence suspended for three years.

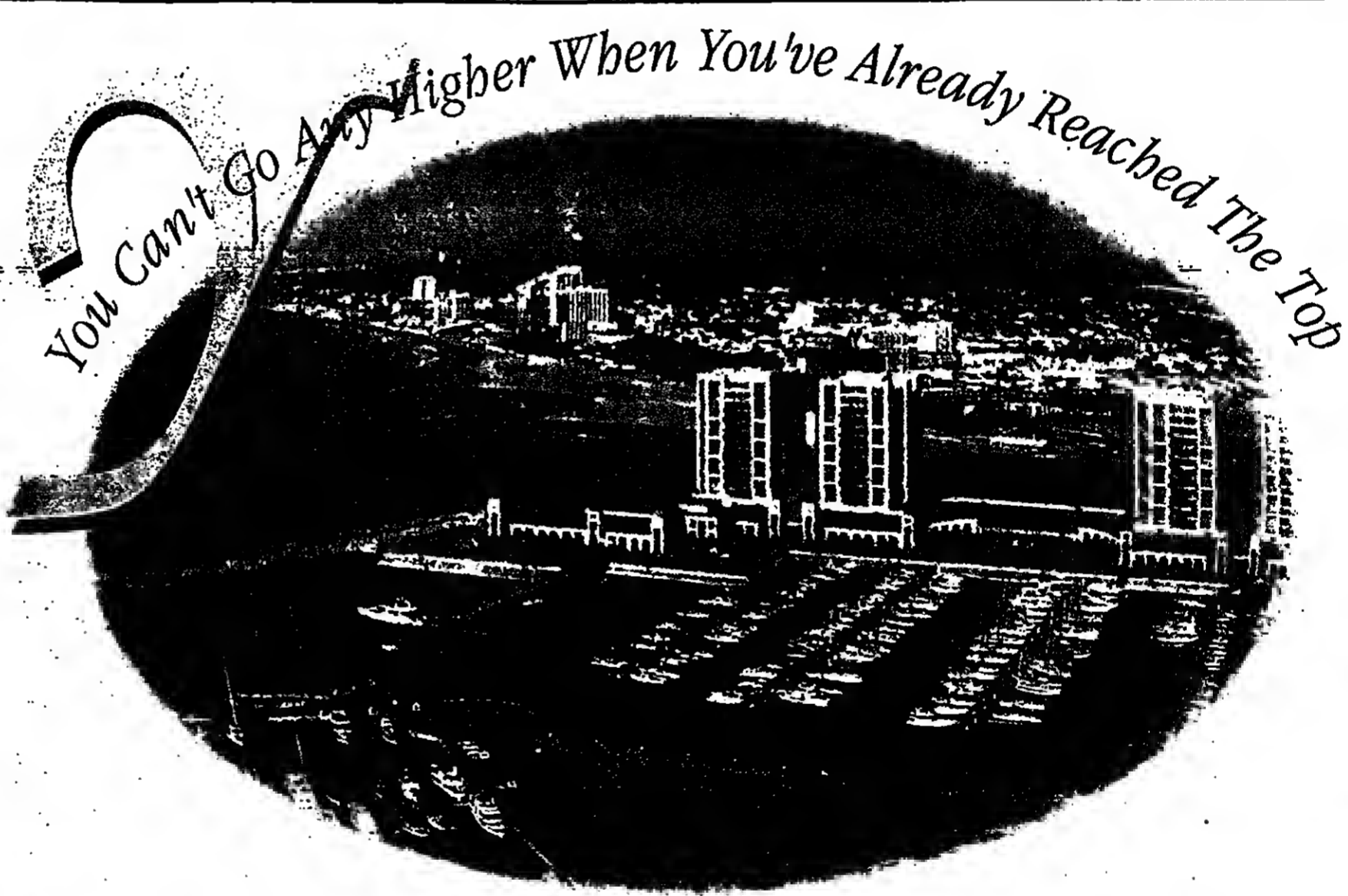
The incident occurred last October, when the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women, which Dayan heads, was touring Hebron and stopped at a Jewish kiosk near Machpela Cave. Lederman approached the MKs, attracted Dayan's attention by offering a cup of tea, then flung the hot drink at her, causing second-degree burns on her neck and chest. Lederman claimed he was

pushed and accidentally spilled the tea, which was disproved by a video film of the incident.

In issuing the sentence, Judge Noam said: "It is necessary to keep [Lederman] under lock and key for a long time in order to protect the public from him." He also said the sentence would serve as a deterrent to others against political violence in general and violence directed against public servants in particular.

Lederman, who was affiliated with the outlawed extremist Kach group, served three years of a 20-year sentence for murdering a Palestinian man in 1978.

Dayan, who was present at the sentencing, said she is satisfied with the sentence and hopes it will act as a deterrent. (Tim)



You Can't Go Any Higher When You've Already Reached The Top

Sharon: Palestinians trying to buy land in Israel

By DAVID HARRIS

Palestinians and other Arabs are doing their best to purchase property in Israel, via Israeli lawyers, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon said yesterday.

Speaking to the Knesset Economics Committee, Sharon said planned legislation to prevent real estate purchases by foreigners is specifically aimed at those from hostile countries.

The issue was raised by MK Avraham Poraz (Meretz-Shinui), who expressed his concern that any legislation might seek to exclude Israeli Arabs. "The planned legislation would not be able to do this and in any case, we say we are a democracy, so how can we prevent such purchases?"

The suggestion was strongly opposed by Sharon, who insisted the law would only apply to foreigners.

"But it is a false fear to say that Arabs will buy land here. After all, despite the fears, the Saudis haven't done it yet," said Poraz.

Anyone eligible to live in Israel under the Law of Return would be exempted from the legislation.

"So what happens if a company like GM wants to buy some land here and then build a factory on it, are we going to say: 'I'm sorry but you're not Jewish?'" added Poraz.

Several straw companies have been set up to make the purchases, according to Sharon, who refused to go into details during the meeting which discussing the reform of the Israel Lands Administration, as proposed by the Ronen committee last week. "This is not the appropriate time," he said, but invited Poraz to a private discussion of the issue.

The ILA will not adopt the recommendations of the Ronen committee on land ownership and usage during its board meeting on Sunday, Sharon told the committee.

First, talks will be held on the proposed reforms between his ministry and Kibbutz movement representatives and delegates from the Jewish National Fund.

Police must pay \$100,000 tax on witness's fee

By RAINIE MARCUS

The Israel Police will pay NIS 340,000 to tax authorities on behalf of the most expensive state's witness the country has ever known.

Ya'acov Tsur, the former private investigator who turned state's witness in the media wiretapping case, received a record tax-free \$200,000, payable in shekels in linked monthly installments over a three-year period, which started in February 1995.

According to the state's witness agreement, Tsur was exempt from paying tax on the sum, but the Income Tax Authority did not

agree and began to chase him for their due. Following long discussions among the tax authorities, police brass, and district attorney's office, it was decided the police would pay income tax on Tsur's fee at a rate of 50 percent.

Tsur is also supposed to be exempt from paying VAT on the \$200,000, as well as income tax and VAT on all investigations and wiretapping services he carried out for various companies over the past several years. According to Tsur, the witness deal included income tax and VAT exemption for the undeclared payments he received for these services.

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Psychiatrists: Frail elderly suffer Seder syndrome

By JUDY SIEGEL

Psychiatrists at Jerusalem's Herzog Memorial Hospital have identified a growing phenomenon of anxiety and depression among elderly people before Passah. Dr. Baruch Shapira, head of the geriatric and psychogeriatric hospital said that during the weeks before Passah, numerous adult children who have invited their parents to the Seder report emotional problems in their elders.

Shapira, who investigated the phenomenon, said that many elderly are ashamed to appear before their family - and especially strangers - with their physical limitations or disabilities. Since such limitations are natural, Shapira said, children should be patient and aware of the possible cause of their parents' distress, and even forgo inviting outsiders to the Seder.

how a sick person can fulfill the commandment of attending a Seder, how a person with back problems can sit through the ceremony, and which medications are kosher for Passah.

Pharmacies to come under closer supervision

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Health Ministry will tighten its supervision of pharmacies, especially in the Haifa area, where Kupat Holim Clalit has claimed anabolic steroids are being sold illegally over the counter in pharmacies and given out in body-building gyms.

The Clalit doctors reported on seven men (five single and two married), with an average age of 24, who recently came to the urology clinic with complaints in a reduction in sexual function, impotence and a decline in the volume of semen.

Absorption Ministry, Rabbinate reach compromise on burials

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

New immigrants and other individuals who die, and whose Jewishness is in question or who claimed to have no religion, will be buried in special sections in Jewish cemeteries, according to a directive issued yesterday by the Absorption Ministry.

Such special sections have been set up in cemeteries in 16 communities. Information on the arrangements was sent out to burial societies, religious councils, and absorption workers.



PM Binyamin Netanyahu cuts the ribbon opening the Ben-Shemem interchange yesterday. (Bryan McBoony)

First Trans-Israel Highway interchange dedicated

By LIAT COLLINS and Nim

The first section of the Ben-Shemem interchange on the yet-to-be-built Trans-Israel Highway was dedicated yesterday afternoon in the presence of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Finance Minister Dan Meridor, and National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon.

"If we don't build modern transportation networks for our children," Netanyahu said, "it will become impossible to live outside city centers, and economic development will be prevented."

including the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel and Green Action - demonstrated during the opening of the interchange. Nine protesters were questioned by police and released.

Cohen warns Hammer over 'religious commissars'

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

MK Ran Cohen (Meretz), the chairman of the Knesset State Control Committee, yesterday warned of "religious commissars" being chosen to oversee state education, when the Authority on Education Towards Values is selected.

Minister Zevulun Hammer against any action that could be interpreted as an attempt to force values which are foreign to those of democracy, human rights, and enlightened government on pupils in the state education system.

He promised that the Shenhar Commission's recommendations regarding studies on Judaism and democracy would be fully implemented.

they say will only be run by representatives of the state-religious stream. They also say it will mean a reduction in the democracy unit's activities and independence, and the sending of 250 women doing national service to teach about Judaism in non-religious schools.

Andrew Meisels dies at 64

Andrew Meisels, a veteran foreign correspondent, author, and broadcaster, died at his home Monday after a brief illness. He was 64.

He joined the Israel Broadcasting Authority as a reporter in its English news department and subsequently became its military affairs correspondent.



Andrew Meisels (David Rabinger)

Meisels is survived by his mother, Margot, sister Marianne, and three daughters, Tamar, Ruth, and Judith. His wife, Martha, died two years ago.

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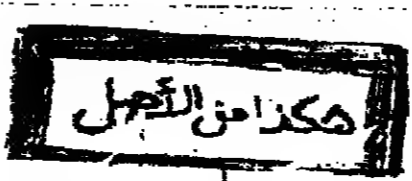
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Phone (day) _____ ID No. _____

Signature _____



ISRAELI SHARES IN NEW YORK

Table of Israeli shares in New York with columns for company name, last price, and change. Includes AMEX and NASDAQ sections.

MISHTANIM LEADING 100

Table of Mishtanim leading 100 shares with columns for company name, last price, and change.

TASE ROUNDUP

Shares up as Dow rebounds

Mishtanim 256.95 ▲ 0.62%
Maof 266.57 ▲ 0.61%

By FELICE MARANZ
Stock indexes rose in Tel Aviv yesterday, as US stocks were seen gaining after American consumer prices rose a lower-than-expected 0.1 percent in March.

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

US data gives shot in arm to Euro markets

LONDON (Reuters) - European stock markets rallied strongly yesterday after lower-than-expected US prices eased the pressure on American policy-makers to raise interest rates again.

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

Table of international shares with columns for company name, last price, and change.

NEW YORK

Table of New York shares with columns for company name, last price, and change.

NYSE STOCKS

Table of NYSE stocks with columns for company name, last price, and change.

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

Table of other market indexes with columns for index name, last price, and change.

US COMMODITIES

Table of US commodities with columns for commodity name, last price, and change.

LONDON COMMODITIES

Table of London commodities with columns for commodity name, last price, and change.

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

Table of spot market metals with columns for metal name, last price, and change.

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

Table of New York metal futures with columns for metal name, last price, and change.

LONDON METAL FIXES

Table of London metal fixes with columns for metal name, last price, and change.

DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA

Table of data communications via with columns for company name, last price, and change.

Foreign financial data courtesy of

Table of foreign financial data with columns for company name, last price, and change.

PARIS

Table of Paris shares with columns for company name, last price, and change.

FRANKFURT

Table of Frankfurt shares with columns for company name, last price, and change.

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